

Czechoslovakia-USSR: Dubcek and his colleagues are being subjected to growing pressures from foreign and domestic sources.

The Soviet press has stepped up its criticism of Prague developments. For the second time in three days, Pravda called on one of its most authoritative commentators to condemn the "upsurge of subversive activities" in Czechoslovakia. The latest article also edged closer to expressing a lack of confidence in the Prague leadership for failure to control the situation. It said the "provocative acts" had not stopped despite the condemnation of them by the Czechoslovak presidium. The article predicted, however, that the "working people" of Czechoslovakia, with the support of the other socialist nations, will save the day.

On the domestic front, party leaders in Prague apparently have failed in their attempt to persuade many leading Czechoslovak editors--who now have a relatively free hand--to refrain from attacking the Soviet Union. During a meeting with party officials on 17 August, 70 editors reportedly refused to accept restrictions on freedom of the press.

The Dubcek leadership has also been disturbed by Western newsmen in Prague who have been reporting the Cierna and Bratislava meetings as a decisive Czechoslovak "victory." Prague informed US officials, for example, that New York Times' correspondent Henry Kamm would probably be expelled if his summer assignment were not about to end. [REDACTED]

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